

## Grazing Management CSP Enhancement

### Conservation Practice Job Sheet

1. Improve grazing management by establishing and utilizing winter stockpile forage.
2. Improve grazing management by utilizing native grasses for species diversity and to extend the grazing season (payment only on acres in native species, max 10 acres).
3. Use annuals and perennials to extend the grazing season.

- ☐ 1. Improve grazing management by establishing and utilizing winter stockpile forage.

Stockpiling is for late fall and winter grazing of tall fescue or orchard grass dominated pastures. Remove livestock from planned stockpile area in mid July to early August, within 7 days apply 60 to 75 lbs of nitrogen/ac to insure adequate yield and quality of forage. Livestock may start grazing of stockpiled fescue by Mid-November or after first killing frost (which ever comes earlier). Closely monitor availability of forage to assure adequate feed is available, provide adequate water for livestock especially during freezing temperatures. The stockpiled fescue may be closely (1- 2") grazed to help maintain legumes in pasture. Consider divisional fence to improve grazing efficiency. Minimum grazing height on orchard grass pasture is 3 inches.

Attach a map showing the stockpiled area:

Field	Acres	Forage types	Dates Excluded		Dates Grazed	
			Begin	End	Begin	End
1	12	(Orchard grass, Tall Fescue)	7/28/2005	11/20/2005	11/21/2005	1/20/2006

- ☐ 2. Improve grazing management by utilizing native grasses for species diversity and to extend the grazing season. This would include Switch grass, Big and Little Bluestem and Indian grass. The animals are being rotated through the paddocks following a grazing plan or schedule. (payment is only on acres in native species, max 10 acres)

The enhancement provides grazing forages for the summer slump period while also providing some preferred wildlife habitat. Producer will manage livestock to allow for adequate rest between grazing periods. Providing a 45 day rest period in the late summer to allow native grasses the opportunity to restore carbohydrates reserves is essential for their persistence. Grazing of switchgrass and bluestem grasses can not be started until grass height reaches at least 18 inches and successive regrowth is 18 inches. Adequate time for re-growth shall be allowed to provide enough time for winter carbohydrate storage in the roots and as practical or desired for winter wildlife cover. Remove livestock when height of grazed stubble is 8 inches.

Note: Most tall grass species should not be grazed below 8 inches.

Attach a map showing the area that native grasses are being utilized:

Field	Acres	Forage types	Dates Excluded	
			Begin	End
1	10	(switchgrass)	7/12/2005	7/15/2005

- ☐ 3. Use annuals and perennials to extend the grazing season. This includes forages like Winter Wheat, Rye and Sorghum Sudan grass. Forages primary function should be for animal's consumption, not for crop production.

The producer will manage annual forages and perennial warm season grass forages for grazing during the summer slow growth period and/or the winter months. Using strip grazing to ration out these supplemental forages will stretch the grazing utilization longer into the dormant season.

**Producer may check one or both of the following (check):**

- ☐ **Use of Annual Forages:** Small grains and brassicas can be planted in August for grazing in November - December. Winter grains can also be grazed again the following spring. Brassicas and annual grasses can also be planted in April-May for grazing in July-August. Annual warm season grasses should be planted in May for grazing in July, August, and September. Livestock may start grazing of stockpiled forages by Mid-November. Avoid feeding concerns by introducing livestock slowly to brassica and provide supplemental hay or pasture. Closely monitor livestock health and availability of forage, provide adequate water for livestock especially during freezing temperatures
- ☐ **Use of Perennial Forages:** Perennial warm season grasses such as big bluestem, eastern gamagrass, indiangrass, and switchgrass can be used as an alternative to cool-season pastures in the summer. Providing a 45 day rest period in the late summer to allow native grasses the opportunity to restore carbohydrates reserves is essential for their persistence. Grazing of switchgrass and bluestem grasses can not be started until grass height reaches at least 18 inches and successive regrowth is 18 inches. Remove livestock when height of grazed stubble is 8 inches. Bermudagrass may be grazed at a height of 6-8 inches and livestock is removed when stubble height reaches 2 inches. Nutrients will be applied as need to maintain production goals. Provide adequate water for livestock.

Attach a map showing the area being used for annual and perennial:

Field	Acres	Forage types	Dates Excluded		Dates Grazed	
			Begin	End	Begin	End
1	113	Brassicas	4/2/2005	7/3/2005	7/4/2005	7/10/2005

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